



# Adult Learning Centres in Manitoba

2007-2008  
Annual Report







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**MINISTER OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

Room 162  
Legislative Building  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8  
CANADA

His Honour the Honourable John Harvard, P.C., O.M.  
Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba  
Room 235, Legislative Building  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

Your Honour:

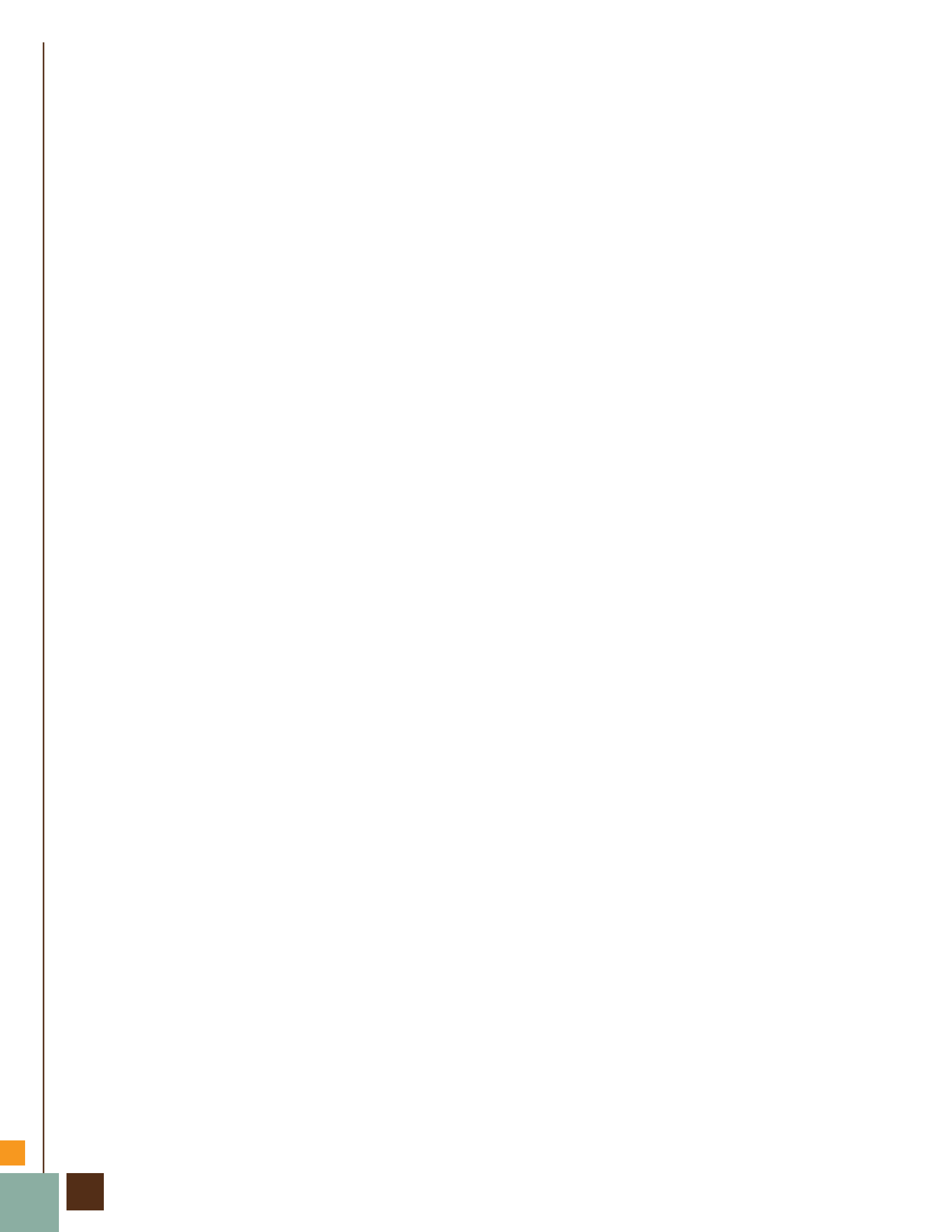
I have the privilege of presenting for the information of Your Honour the Annual Report of Manitoba's Adult Learning Centres for the program year ending June 30, 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane McGifford".

Diane McGifford  
Minister







**Deputy Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy**

Room 156 Legislative Building  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 0V8

Honourable Diane McGifford  
Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy  
Room 162, Legislative Building  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

Dear Minister:

I have the honour of presenting the Annual Report for Manitoba's Adult Learning Centres. This report contains program information from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.

For the 2007-2008 program year, the Adult Learning and Literacy Branch of Advanced Education and Literacy registered 45 adult learning centres under the *Adult Learning Centres Act*. These 45 centres and the 87 sites they operate, located in all regions of Manitoba, ensure adult learners have access to educational opportunities in the communities in which they live.

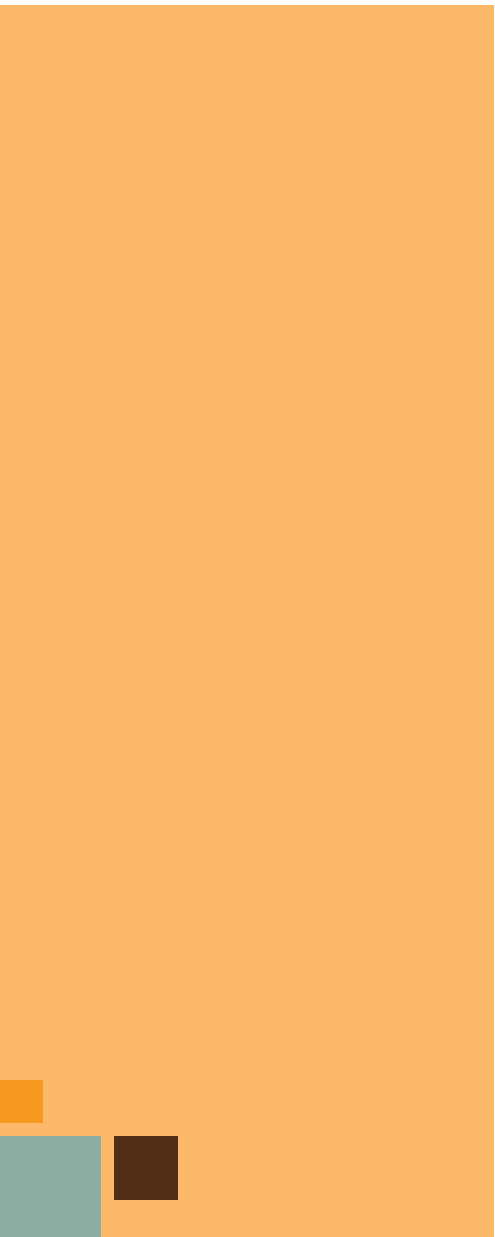
Adult learning centres make a considerable contribution to the concept of lifelong learning and enable people to participate in the human, social, economic, and civic development of Manitoba society. Teachers and staff at the centres are dedicated to helping their learners develop the confidence, skills, and knowledge needed to move forward with their life plans.

The testimonials included with this report are representative of the thousands of success stories coming out of Manitoba's adult learning centres. I am pleased with the role adult learning centres continue to play in making a difference in learners' lives.



Respectfully submitted,

Heather D. Reichert, CA  
Deputy Minister





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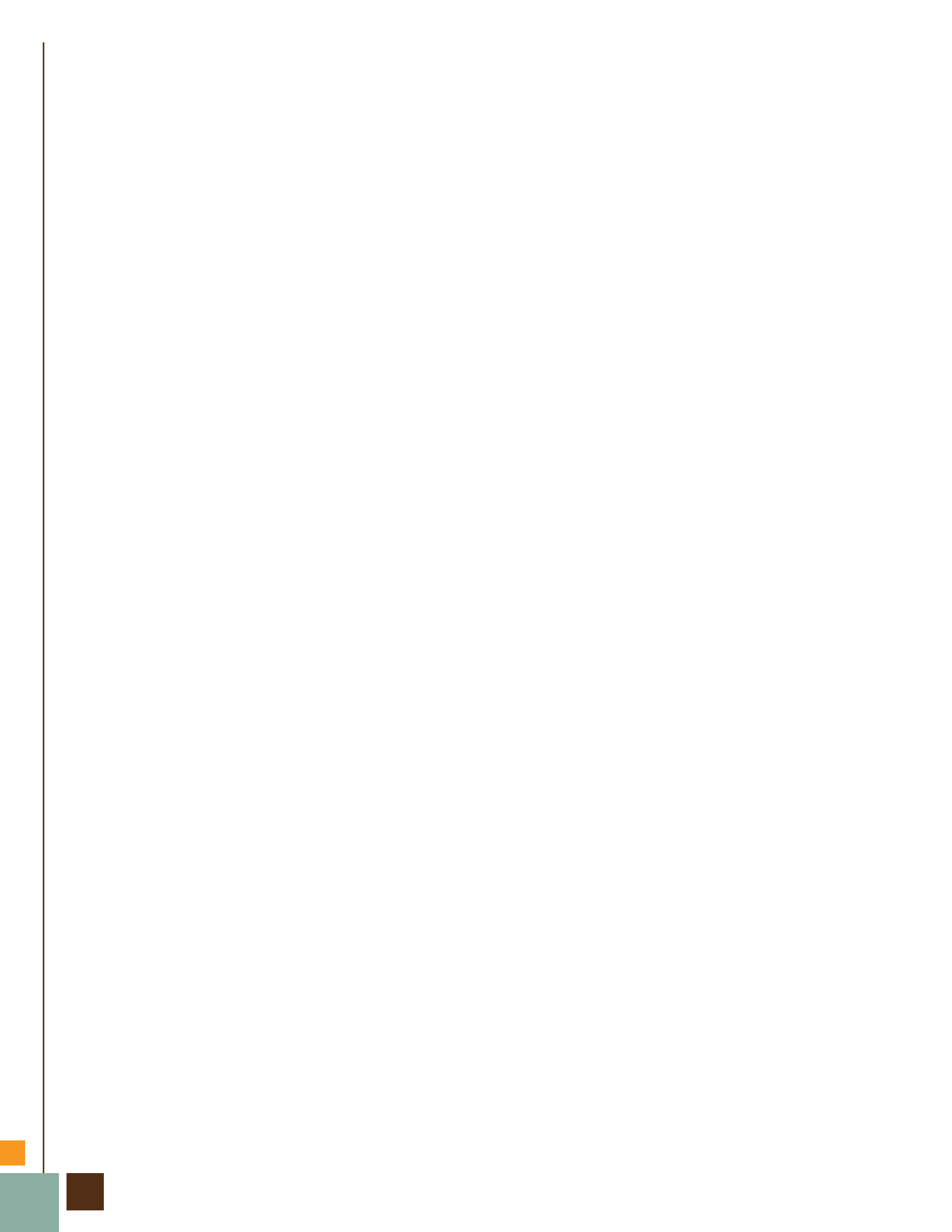
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*“ADULT EDUCATION INCREASES SELF-CONFIDENCE, preparing students for future careers and job opportunities, giving us a chance to advance our education. This program is a great opportunity for our community...”*

*—Eileen, Assiniboine Community College Adult Collegiate, Sandy Bay*

*“FOR THE LAST 49 YEARS of my life I always wanted to get my grade 12 diploma, and if it was not for the teachers and staff at the school, I would not have been able to achieve this goal...With their help and encouragement I was able to reach my goal and graduate this year.”*

*—Barbara, Ste. Anne Adult Learning Centre, Ste. Anne*





## I. Introduction

Adult Learning and Literacy (ALL) of Advanced Education and Literacy is dedicated to improving the educational and employment prospects of this province's adults by working with Manitoba's adult learning centres (ALCs).

ALL administers the *Adult Learning Centres Act*, which came into effect July 1, 2003. This report encompasses the fifth year of the Act's implementation.

ALCs are registered on an annual basis under the Act to provide tuition-free high school credit and upgrading courses using recognized principles of adult education. *The Adult Learning Centres – General Regulation* also came into force July 1, 2003. The Act and General Regulation establish accountability standards that ALCs meet in order to ensure public monies are well spent and adult learners are well served.



*I AM 25-YEARS OLD, and I have recently completed school. I graduated from Fieldstone Ventures Education and Training Centre in Ashern as a mature student, ...and I graduated from Red River College as a health care aide.*

*Before I went to school, I was a proud stay-at-home mom of a beautiful 3-year-old son...I was starting to look for a new job, but I found it difficult because I didn't have my high school diploma. So after careful consideration, I decided to visit Fieldstone after seeing an advertisement for it in the Around Town newspaper. My first thought was, "I am too old to go back to high school." I needed something that suited my needs as an adult mother.*

*My first visit... was very good. Everyone was very nice and welcoming, and they treated me as an adult. They made it easy*

*for my return to school and I felt comfortable...as the school year went on I heard that they were offering the Red River College health care aide course, so I thought that I could do some research on this for an assignment that I was doing. At first, I thought that this course was not what I was looking for, but my dream is to be an LPN or an RN...I came to the decision that this would be a great starting point for me to fulfill my dream. So I got to work! I completed the course and graduated with Honours as a health care aide.*

*After completing the course, I was working as a health care aide in Ashern for some time, and now I am the Community Health Representative in my home community of Lake Manitoba First Nation.*

*I am very happy with the success that I have had, and if it had not been for Fieldstone making me feel so welcome and accepted, I would not have done so well in my studies. Completing school has made my future look very strong, and I hope to continue on.*

—Stacy

Fieldstone Ventures Education and Training Centre, Inc., Ashern

## II. Highlights of Adult Learning Centre Programming for 2007-2008

<b>Number of Learners Registered at ALCs</b>	<b>7,929</b>
<b>Total Number of ALC Graduates</b>	<b>1,174</b>
<b>Number of Aboriginal Graduates</b>	<b>423</b>
<b>Number of Courses Completed for Credit</b>	<b>10,792</b>

### Pursuit of Excellence in the Assessment and Recognition of Learning (PEARL) Award

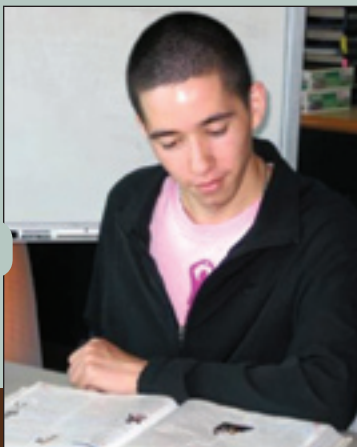
The Manitoba Prior Learning Assessment Network awarded the PEARL to Winnipeg Adult Education Centre – Off Campus for its innovative Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) practices.

Staff at Winnipeg Adult Education Centre – Off Campus designed innovative training materials including:

- Employability Portfolio templates and computer presentations
- Print materials
- Client profiles
- Tracking sheets
- Essential Skills assessments and checklists

These training materials ensure learners' prior learning is recognized in a thorough and effective manner. As of the award date, over 50 high school credits were granted through Winnipeg Adult Education Centre – Off Campus' PLAR process.

Importantly, the process had an effect beyond the classroom; in developing the Portfolio, learners identified strengths, clarified career, education, and personal goals, and, in some cases, used the Portfolios to apply for post-secondary studies.



*Zane  
Winnipeg Adult Education Centre  
– Off Campus*

### Manitoba Association for Multicultural Education (MAME) Educator of the Year Award: Stevenson-Britannia Adult Literacy Program Inc.

The Manitoba Association for Multicultural Education honours Manitoba educational institutions working in the area of multiculturalism / anti-racist education with its Educator of the Year Award.

MAME awarded the 2008 Educator of the Year to Stevenson-Britannia Literacy Program in recognition of its outstanding contribution to multiculturalism / anti-racism education.

### Frontier School Division Building Construction Program

This groundbreaking program combines the acquisition of the Mature Student High School Diploma with a Carpentry Level I certificate. Participants took academic classes at the Moose Lake Adult Learning Centre and received instruction from a Journeyman Carpenter. Eight participants graduated with a Mature Student High School Diploma.

After completion of the program, Frontier created the Moose Lake Portable Classroom Project, an extension activity that included apprenticing the participants to enhance trade and employability skills and to earn hours toward the next level of apprenticeship. Participants constructed two portable classrooms for the nursery and kindergarten learners at Rod Martin School and completed an exterior renovation of Moose Lake Adult Learning Centre.

## The Dual Credit Initiative- Pathways to Post-Secondary Education

ALCs and post-secondary institutions enter into partnerships to designate selected post-secondary courses as “dual credits.” Dual credit courses provide opportunities for ALC learners working toward a Mature Student High School Diploma to study post-secondary courses and apply them for credit at both the secondary and post-secondary levels.

Dual credits offer learners early exposure to the demands of post-secondary education and the opportunity to complete a high school diploma at the same time. Many dual credits are delivered in rural and remote ALCs and ALC sites, providing learners opportunities to study at the post-secondary level in their home communities.

In 2007-2008, ALC learners earned 459 dual credits.

## Manitoba Recipient for the 2008 Council of the Federation Literacy Award: Anita Martens

In July 2004, Canada’s Premiers created a special annual award to recognize achievements in literacy across the country. The Council of the Federation (COF) Literacy Award acknowledges outstanding achievement, innovative practice, and excellence in literacy.

Manitoba’s recipient for 2008 is Anita Martens.

Anita Martens of Winnipeg, Manitoba arrived in Canada in the late 1970s filled with hopes of a bright future; however, due to a difficult life situation she found herself years later a single mother with three small

children and limited English skills. After a few months in a literacy program to upgrade her skills, Anita began to dream of continuing her education. Her confidence grew as her skills improved. In 2007-2008, she worked hard to improve her English and to complete her grade 12 at McLeod Adult Learning Centre.

Anita is generous of spirit and is always happy to assist others. Anita volunteers once a week at the Health Sciences Centre, is a member of the Learner Speakers’ Bureau and the Student Advisory Group. In April 2008 she sat on the adult learner caucus at the Council of Ministers of Education Pan-Canadian Literacy Forum. True to her motto, “I decided to get better instead of bitter,” Anita has overcome barriers of language, education, and challenges in her personal life.



*COF award winner Anita Martens with Premier Gary Doer*



*McLeod Adult Learning Centre staff and COF award winner Anita Martens*

*“IN 2006 I LOST MY JOB. When I filed for unemployment, I couldn’t fill the papers out by myself because of my poor spelling skills. The lady who helped me asked why I didn’t go to school now. I told her that would be my dream come true. So with her help, I applied to school...[At the Elmwood GOAL Program] I could concentrate on my spelling and reading...My spelling...improved, and so [did] my confidence...In September 2007, I registered at the McLeod Adult Learning Centre. I graduated with my Mature Student Diploma in June 2008. I found my experience at the McLeod Adult Learning Centre to be supportive and challenging. I worked hard in my classes, and with a lot of guidance from teachers and tutors, I was able to achieve my goal of completing my grade 12. Being the recipient of the Literacy Award is a great honour that I will treasure my whole life. The impossible was achieved and I encourage everyone not to give up hope, no matter what you have gone through. Change the things you can change so you can go back to school and have a better life.”*

*—Anita Martens, COF Literacy Award Winner*

### III. Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition in Adult Learning Centres for 2007-2008

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is a process used to identify, document, assess and recognize skill and knowledge. Full and partial credit may be given so that adult learners avoid unnecessary repetition of learning, enabling them to

move forward with increased confidence in themselves and their abilities.

ALCs reported the following PLAR activity for 2007-2008:

<b>Number of learners who received PLAR advising</b>	<b>531</b>
<b>Number of learners who earned full credit through PLAR</b>	<b>236</b>
<b>Number of learners who earned partial credit through PLAR</b>	<b>107</b>
<b>Number of full credits awarded through PLAR</b>	<b>478</b>
<b>Number of partial credits awarded through PLAR</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>Number of graduates with PLAR credits</b>	<b>176</b>

### IV. Registration and Funding Information for 2007-2008

Under the *Adult Learning Centres Act*, the registration of an ALC is done on an annual basis. Registration is subject to meeting the requirements of the Act, fulfilling the accountability requirements established by the Registrar of ALL, and

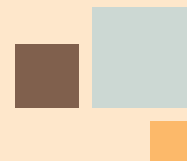
having sufficient funding for the operation of an ALC.

A registered ALC may be funded wholly or partially from ALL's funding allocation, or it may be funded entirely by sources other than ALL.

<b>ALC Funding Allocation for 2007-2008</b>	
<b>\$14,810,000</b>	
<b>Total Number of Registered ALCs for 2007-2008</b>	
<b>45</b>	
<b>Number of Registered ALCs that Received ALL Funding in 2007-2008</b>	<b>Number of Registered ALCs Funded Entirely by Sources Other than ALL in 2007-2008</b>
<b>41</b>	<b>4</b>

*"I WILL NOT FORGET the chance that I was given to prove to myself that I could succeed in reaching my personal goal of getting a high school diploma."*

*—Mohammad, UFCW Training Centre, Winnipeg*



## V. List of Adult Learning Centres and Sites for 2007-2008

An ALC may operate from more than one site. For 2007-2008, the 45 registered ALCs delivered programming from 87 sites.

Aboriginal Community Campus	Keewatin Adult Learning Centre – The Pas
Assiniboine Community College Adult Collegiate (ACCAC)	Keewatin Adult Learning Centre – Thompson
ACCAC – Ebb and Flow	Keewatin Adult Learning Centre – York Landing
ACCAC – God’s Lake	Kelsey School Division Adult Education Program
ACCAC – Nelson House	Long Plain First Nation Training Centre
ACCAC – Rolling River	Lord Selkirk Learning Centre
ACCAC – Sandy Bay	Lord Selkirk Park Adult Learning Centre
Assiniboine Community College – Parkland Campus	Louis Riel Institute Adult Learning Centre
Assiniboine Community College – Westbran Campus	Many Faces Education Centre
Adult Education Centre (AEC) Inc.	Midland Adult Education Centre
Brandon Literacy Council Inc.	Minnedosa Adult Learning Centre
Canupawakpa Adult Learning Centre	Morden Adult Education Centre
Crossroads Learning Centre Inc.	Mountain View Adult Learning Centre
Faith Adult Learning Centre	Peguis Adult Education Learning Centre
Fieldstone Ventures Education and Training Centre	Portage la Prairie School Division Adult Education Program
Frontier School Division Adult Education Programs:	Portage Learning and Literacy Centre
Barrows Junction	Regional Alternative Education Centre
Berens River	River East School Division – Hydro Site
Birdtail Sioux	River East School Division – McLeod Adult Learning Centre
Brochet	River East School Division – 17 Wing CFB Site
Camperville	River East School Division – Transcona Community Learning Centre
Churchill	Red River College (RRC) – Notre Dame Campus
Cormorant	RRC – Princess Street Campus
Cranberry Portage	RRC – St. Pierre Community Learning Centre
Duck Bay	RRC – Steinbach Community Learning Centre
Fox Lake	RRC – Winkler Community Learning Centre
Gillam	St. Norbert Adult Education Centre
Grand Rapids	St. Vital Adult Learning Centre
Gypsumville	Ste. Anne Adult Learning Centre
Leaf Rapids	Seven Oaks Adult Learning Centre
Lynn Lake	Stevenson-Britannia Adult Literacy Program Inc.
Moose Lake	Sunrise School Division – Agassiz Adult Education Centre
Pine Creek	Sunrise School Division – Empower Education Centre
Skowman	Sunrise School Division – New Directions School
South Indian Lake	Sunrise School Division – Springfield Adult Learning Centre
Wanipigow	Swan River Adult Education Program
Waterhen (Shingibus)	Swan River Adult Education Program – Friendship Centre
Horizons Learning Centre – Crossways	Turtle Mountain Adult Education Centre – Boissevain
Horizons Learning Centre – Elmwood	Turtle Mountain Adult Education Centre – Killarney
Horizons Learning Centre – New Directions for Families	United Food & Commercial Workers Training Centre
Horizons Learning Centre – Portage Place	Urban Circle Training Centre Inc.
Jobworks Adult Learning Centre	Winnipeg Adult Education Centre – Off Campus
Jobworks Youthbuilders Program	Waywayseecappo Learning Centre
Keewatin Adult Learning Centre – Split Lake	Yellowquill College Inc.

*“I WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT on how if I had not followed my heart but rather succumbed to a slight fear of the unknown, I would not have had the opportunity to be sitting in the position I am today. Shortly after receiving my [high school] diploma, I applied for a position as Executive Director for the Portage and District Chamber of Commerce, which had many applicants. One prerequisite was to have a high school diploma. I got the job thanks to the adult education program.”*

*—Alana, Portage la Prairie School Division Adult Education Program, Portage la Prairie*

## VI. Adult Learning Centre Statistical Information for 2007-2008

ALCs submit statistical data to ALL on an interim and year-end basis. The gathering of statistical information is essential to the development, promotion, provision, and monitoring of adult education in Manitoba. The statistics provide a quantitative description of the ALC programs and the adult learner populations that the programs serve.

### Statistical Information: Self-declared

ALC learners provide the following information on a self-declared basis. Because of the optional nature of its collection, the information must be considered an approximation of the ALC learner population. General trends or patterns may be indicated.

For 2007-2008, ALCs reported the following statistical information regarding their ALC learners:

<b>First Nation</b>	<b>30.1%</b>
<b>Métis</b>	<b>7.9%</b>
<b>Inuit</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
<b>Other</b> (captures data for learners who self-identify as Aboriginal, but do not / cannot specify according to the categories above)	<b>2.5%</b>
<b>TOTAL FIRST NATION, MÉTIS, INUIT, AND OTHER</b>	<b>40.6%</b>
<b>Employed either part- or full-time</b>	<b>41.4%</b>
<b>Employment Insurance recipient</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
<b>Employment and Income Assistance recipient</b>	<b>17.6%</b>
<b>Single parent with child(ren) under age 12</b>	<b>18.1%</b>
<b>Speaker of English as an Additional Language</b>	<b>19.2%</b>

*"MY CLASSMATES WERE A PILLAR OF STRENGTH. They offered feedback, assurance and loyalty. On graduation day, I was as proud of my colleagues as myself...we had achieved our goal as a team."*

—Fernande (Roxy), Assiniboine Community College Parkland Campus, Dauphin

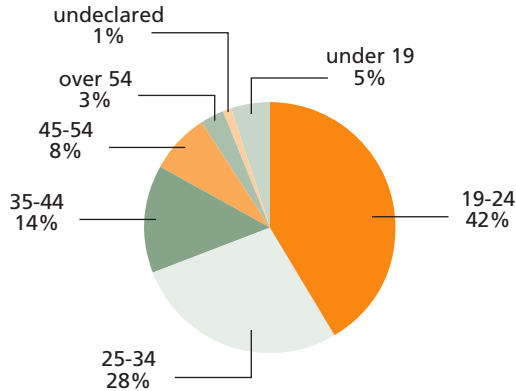
*"I'M A 21-YEAR-OLD FATHER of a baby daughter, and going back to school and achieving my diploma... gave me the encouragement to continue my studies..."*

—Maurice, Long Plain First Nation Training Centre, Portage la Prairie

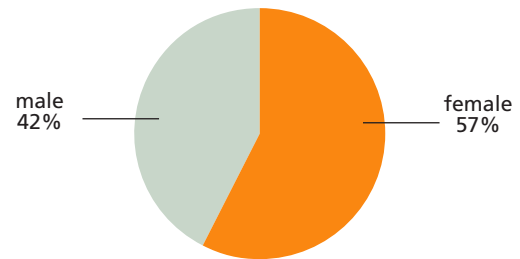
## Statistical Information: Age, Gender, and Education History

ALCs are required to collect from their learners the information for the categories of Age, Gender, and Education History.<sup>1</sup> The figures below represent the percent of the adult learner population for each category.<sup>2</sup>

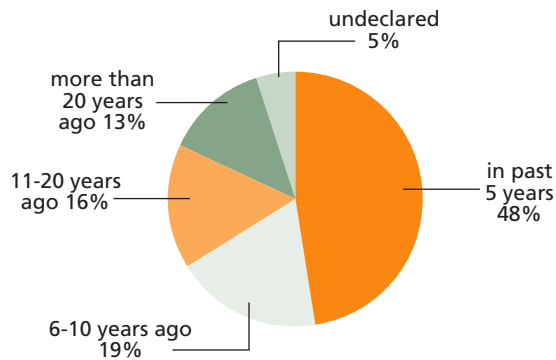
### AGE OF ALC LEARNERS



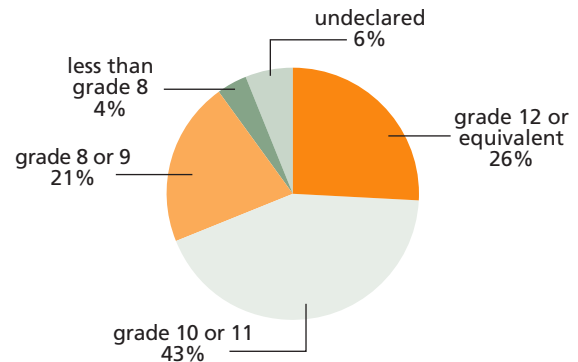
### GENDER OF ALC LEARNERS



### EDUCATION HISTORY: WHEN ALC LEARNERS LAST ATTENDED SCHOOL



### EDUCATION HISTORY: GRADE THAT ALC LEARNERS LAST COMPLETED



1 An Undeclared option remains available for reporting purposes.

2 Because of rounding, percentages may not add up to exactly 100%.



*TANSI, Welcome Graduates, family, friends. Thank you for coming to share this special day with us, a day to celebrate our accomplishment as Grade 12 graduates.*

*For many reasons, we left the school system earlier than expected. Then we realized that we didn't know it all and needed an education to get ahead in life. Taking that first step back into school, after several years of absence, was our first step into a brighter future. It was difficult at times but we persevered, put our thinking caps on straight and marched forward. It took a few years but we finally made it... with a lot of gentle pushing from our instructor, our friends, and families.*

*I'm sure there were times we doubted ourselves and felt like giving up, asking if this is worth it. Let me tell you... it was worth it because today I am proud to be standing here as a Grade 12 graduate and an education is something that no one can take away.*

*I am thankful that I was given an opportunity to complete my grade 12. Education is never a waste and should not be taken for granted. Value what we have earned today, celebrate what we have accomplished because knowledge is power and learning is the key that opens doors in the future. Ekasani*

